

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSAE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 /028 W  
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R 131037Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3247

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS, CASC, RO  
SUBJ: EMIGRATION AND MARRIAGE CASES

REF: BUCHAREST 3022

1. DURING MAY 9 CALL ON DEP. FONMIN PACOSTE TO DISCUSS CONSULAR PROBLEMS, AMBASSADOR RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT CURRENT GOR EMIGRATION AND MARRIAGE POLICIES IN LIGHT OF MFN RENEWAL.

2. WITH REGARD TO EMIGRATION, AMBASSADOR ASKED ABOUT RECENT INDICATIONS REGARDING DECLINE IN PASSPORT ISSUANCE, WHICH HE NOTED UNFORTUNATELY SEEMED TO BE A FEATURE OF SPRING IN ROMANIA. HE ADDED THAT OUR HOPES HAD BEEN THAT THE MFN RENEWAL PROCESS THIS YEAR AS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH PACOSTE IN WASHINGTON COULD BE COMPLETED SMOOTHLY. PACOSTE RESPONDED THAT WE HAD ALREADY HAD EARLIER IN THE YEAR A LARGE LIST OF APPROVALS. THE GERMANS FOR THEIR PART HAD ALREADY HAD 5,000 PASSPORTS APPROVED THIS YEAR AND WE COULD EXPECT TO SEE MANY MORE PASSPORTS DURING MAY. HE STATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT DESPITE RUMORS TO THE CONTRARY ALL PERSONS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED WOULD RECEIVE PASSPORTS AND WOULD BE ABLE TO DEPART. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS MIGHT BE DELAY IN CERTAIN CASES BECAUSE INDIVIDUAL IS IN OCCUPATION IN WHICH HE/SHE CANNOT EASILY BE REPLACED, DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING VARIOUS EXIT FORMALITIES, ETC., BUT THESE WERE  
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EXCEPTIONS.

3. PACOSTE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT, FROM NOW ON, ONLY CASES INVOLVING FAMILY REUNIFICATION COULD EXPECT FAVORABLE OUTCOME. HE DREW A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE PAST IN WHICH HE SAID GOR HAD APPROVED DEPARTURE IN SOME CASES GOING BEYOND FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND THE FUTURE IN WHICH ONLY FAMILY

REUNIFICATION CASES COULD EXPECT APPROVAL. AMBASSADOR NOTED OUR REPRESENTATION LISTS ADDRESS THEMSELVES ALMOST ENTIRELY TO FAMILY REUNIFICATION SITUATIONS WHICH IS ALSO PART OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT PROVISIONS. (COMMENT: EMBASSY WISHES TO NOTE HERE REPEATED STATEMENTS BY CONSULAR DIRECTORATE OFFICIALS TO CONSOFFS THAT GOR CONCEPT OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION IS THAT OF REUNITING SPOUSES, PARENTS AND MINOR CHILDREN AND, IN CERTAIN INSTANCES, ELDERLY PARENTS WITH ADULT CHILDREN. WE WILL BE MONITORING PASSPORT ISSUANCES TO SEE WHETHER PACOSTE'S STATEMENT IN FACT MEANS A NARROWING GW EARLIER PRACTICE.)

4. IN RESPECT TO MARRIAGE CASES, AMBASSADOR THANKED PACOSTE FOR RECENT LIST OF 13 MARRIAGE APPROVALS FOR WHICH WE HAD LONG WAITED, BUT POINTED OUT THAT DURING PAST FEW MONTHS EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED, BY APPLICANTS NOT BY MFA, OF EQUAL NUMBER OF REFUSALS, CITING AS EXAMPLE RECENT REFUSAL FOR MARRIAGE BETWEEN A FULBRIGHT GRANTEE AND ROMANIAN FIANCEE AND AN AVERAGE WAITING PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR (WHICH SEEMED MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR THOROUGH INVESTIGATION). AMBASSADOR ASKED FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THESE REFUSALS A LIST OF WHICH HE GAVE PACOSTE, IN REPLY, PACOSTE REITERATED FAMILIAR ARGUMENT THAT MFA ANSWERABLE TO ROMANIAN PUBLIC OPINION WHICH IS MOST SENSITIVE TO STORIES OF DISSOLUTION OF FOREIGN MARRIAGES. NOT EVERYONE WHO APPLIED COULD THEREFORE EXPECT TO BE APPROVED.

5. PACOSTE WENT ON TO STRESS AGAIN OFT-REPEATED STATEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT ROMANIAN PARTNER'S FAMILY MUST CONSENT TO FOREIGN MARRIAGE AND SAID GOR DOES NOT WISH TO CREATE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS BY APPROVING ILL-ADVISED MARRIAGES, CITING USUAL HORROR STORIES OF ABANDONED CHILDREN, ROMANIAN WIVES LIVING ABROAD WHO WERE FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION AS ONLY MEANS OF SUPPORT, ETX. HE ALSO UNDERLINED THAT MARRIAGES APPLICATIONS INVOLVING YOUNG ROMANIAN GIRLS WISHING TO MARRY FOREIGNERS WOULD IN THE FUTURE BE EVEN MORE CLOSELY SCRUTINIZED. HE ACCENTUATED IMPORTANCE THAT GOR PLACES ON FAMILY TIES BY CONFIRMING THAT PRESIDENT PERSONALLY SIGNS ALL MARRIAGE APPROVALS COMPARED TO FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES WHERE COMMISSION HAS POWER TO ACT. PACOSTE CITED AGAIN ONE CASE RAISED WHILE HE WAS IN WASHINGTON TO ILLUSTRATE THAT MARRIAGES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAD PROBLEMS, TO WHICH AMBASSADOR REPLIED THAT WE HAD ENTIRELY DIFFERENT CONCEPT OF WHEN INDIVIDUALS WERE OLD ENOUGH TO EXERCISE RESPONSIBILITY ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT PARENTAL CONSENT. (PACOSTE DID ASK THAT WE CALL TO HIS ATTENTION ANY CASES IN WHICH WE WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED AND AMBASSADOR

URGED PACOSTE TO REVIEW THE WHOLE LIST OF REFUSALS ONCE AGAIN BECAUSE UNLESS GOR WISHED TO STOP TRADE AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES ALTOGETHER (PACOSTE SAID THIS WAS NOT GOR INTENTION), MARRIAGES BETWEEN AMERICANS AND ROMANIAN WERE BOUND TO OCCUR.

6. RE PARA 2, GERMAN AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT FRG EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED NEWLY ISSUED PASSPORT DONE IN REVISED FORMAT, THEREBY LENDING CREDENCE TO RUMORS OF NEW PASSPORT CRITERIA. WE HAVE NOT, AS YET, SEEN ANY REVISED PASSPORTS ALTHOUGH SEVERAL RECENTLY ISSUED STATELESS PASSPORTS WERE GIVEN TO US LAST WEEK.  
BARNES

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## Message Attributes

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